

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-02 XMB-02

AID-05 OPIC-03 TRSE-00 OMB-01 EA-06 EUR-12 /055 W

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R 070951Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6014

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID EAIR EFIN ELTN ETEL EWWT GH

SUBJ: MY CALL ON TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSIONER

1. I PAID COURTESY CALL ON COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS COL. P.K. AGYEKUM JAN. 6. WE WERE JOINED BY PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF MINISTRY AND BY EMBASSY E/C CHIEF.

2. SIGNIFICANTLY, ALTHOUGH HE HAD TWO OPPORTUNITIES, AGYEKUM FAILED TO MENTION BILATERAL AIR AGREEMENT OR LANDING RIGHTS. HE DID SAY THAT GOG HAD OR WOULD SHORTLY APPLY TO EXIMBANK AGAIN FOR FINANCING A SINGLE BOEING 707, SINCE APPLICATION FOR TWO 707'S HAD BEEN REJECTED. HE CITED AIR CARGO GROWTH AS JUSTIFICATION FOR THE NEW AIRPLANE.

3. OF THE EIGHT DEPARTMENTS AND CORPORATIONS UNDER HIS CONTROL, AGYEKUM SAID THE "PROBLEMS" WERE P AND T (SPECIFICALLY TELEPHONES), RAILWAYS, AND BLACK STAR LINE. IN ALL CASES FINANCING WAS A BOTTLENECK. IBRD LOAN WOULD HELP REPLACE EXISTING ANTIQUATED TELEPHONE EXCHANGES. A RAILWAY TRACK STRAIGHTENING PROGRAM IS IN PROGRESS, AND EXTENSION OF LINE TO SUNYANI HOPED FOR IN RELATIVELY NEAR FUTURE, WITH LINE FURTHER NORTH LATER. CHINESE MAY ASSIST IN RAILWAY PROJECT, AND POSSIBLY ALSO EQUIPMENT OR AID FROM ROMANIANS. BLACK STAR NEEDS LARGER, FASTER, BULK-CARGO VESSELS, BUT AGYEKUM GAVE NO SPECIFICS ABOUT ACQUISITION

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PLANS.

4. I RAISED QUESTION OF FAIR SHARE CARGO FOR FARRELL LINES.  
AGYEKUM OBVIOUSLY NOT BRIEFED, BECAUSE HE ASKED ME TO CONTACT  
FARRELL TO PICK UP CARGOS.

5. AGYEKUM EXPRESSED HIMSELF REASONABLY SATISFIED WITH REST  
OF HIS DOMAIN, SPECIFICALLY INCLUDING ROAD TRANSPORT. HE NOTED  
WITH FAVOR MACK TRUCKS AND THEIR DURABILITY, ALTHOUGH HE  
COMPLAINED ABOUT COST.

6. IN CONNECTION WITH ROADS HE ASKED FOR DATA ON WHAT U.S.  
USES AS PAVING MATERIALS "IN SIMILAR CLIMATES"; MISSION  
WILL ATTEMPT TO SUPPLY. COMMENT: ROAD BUILDING ACTUALLY RE-  
SPONSIBILITY OF MINISTRY WORKS AND HOUSING.  
BLACK

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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